THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The first unit of 210 MW at Farakka was synchronised on 1st January, 1986 and had, upto the end of September, 1986, generated 183.4 million units. Commercial operation of the unit did not materialize on account, mainly, of constraints in the Coal Handling Plant and the Merry-Go-Round (MGR) System for coal transport, thereby calling for excessive oil support. Delays in the MRG system have resulted from non-availability of land (in Bihar and West Bengal) which has since been acquired by the respective State authorities and the MGR System is expected to be ready by March, 1987. The construction of the Coal Handling Plant, which was delayed on account of labour problems, is also expected to be completed shortly.

New scheme for refilling of gas cylinders

695. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Petroleum propose to introduce a new scheme with regard to refillling of gas cylinders at the residence of consumers in some of the metropolitan cities in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) while the Bharat Petroleum Corporation is examining the feasibility of decentrolising the filling of LPG cylinders to bring the same closer to consumers there is no proposal to introduce any such system nor has the matter been examined yet from the viewpoint of statutory safety requirements.

New system for registering gas cylinder request during night

696. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the gas agencies in Metropolitan cities have recently introduced a new system with regard to registering the requests of consumers on phones for the supply of gas cylinders during night time; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Some LPG distributors of Bharat Petroleum Corporation in Bombay and Delhi have installed electronic cassette recorders attached to telephones to facilitate booking of LPG refills outside the distributorships working hours. Bookings recorded on these machines are subsequently transferred to the distributors delivery register for effecting supplies.

Installation of diesel generation sets in Karnataka

697. SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA: Will he Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of the proposal of Government of Karnataka regarding clearance to the scheme for installation of diesel-generation sets at Kolar, Indi, Jamkandi and Bidar in Karnataka State; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in clearance of the above proposal?